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REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are currently pending. No amendments have been made to the claims. The Specification and Figure 1 of the Drawings have been amended to address various (and related) objections raised by the Examiner in items Nos. 1-3 on pages 1-3 of the Official Action, and not herein repeated. Applicants believe that the amendments made herein do not add any new matter to the application and fully respond to the various objections raised by the Examiner.

On the merits, the Examiner has rejected Claims 1-7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,233,248 B1 (Sautter et al.). The arguments advanced in support of this rejection are discussed in item 5 on pages 5-7 of the Official Action, and not herein repeated.

The Examiner has also rejected Claims 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Sautter et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,446,192 B1 (Narasimhan et al.). The arguments in support of this rejection are advanced in items No. 7 on pages 7-9 of the Official Action, and not herein repeated.

Applicants respectfully traverse each and every ground of rejection lodged against the pending claims, as well as any objections not otherwise rendered moot by the aforesaid amendments to the Drawings and Specification.

The method of communication according to the invention is subdivided into three phases, namely an identifying phase, a configuring phase, and a data exchange phase. With this method of communication according to the invention, two communicating parties, linked to each other by a point-to-point connection, can rapidly communicate with each other

PATENT

periodically. For this point-to-point connection (pair-to-pair) the serial points of intersection of the two communicating parties are used, so that costly "Dual Port RAMs" need no longer be used. Hence, this method according to the invention is especially advantageous in "Low-Performance" drive systems, owing to a substantial cost advantage.

At the beginning of the method of communication according to the invention, the two communicating parties identify each other. During an ensuing configuring phase, module-dependent configuring properties are exchanged between the communicating parties. From the communication parameters and communication properties, the optimum configuration able to optimally utilize the available band width is automatically selected. Only after this selection can the data exchange be begun. For this communication, only the full duplex point-to-point connection 10, comprising the three lines 18, 20 and 22, is employed.

By this method of communication, communicating partners having different power levels can communicate with each other, or are exchangeable. Thus, the multiplicity of a module (communicating party) is reduced to an embodiment whereby costs are substantially reduced.

The subject matter of citation US 6,233,248 B1 (Sautter et al.) relates to a protocol for an Internet communication between computer systems. A past Standard Protocol OSI/ISO is modified in this Sautter et al. citation. The protocol IUDP according to the invention contains layers 4, 3 and 2 of this Protocol OSI/ISO, which contains seven layers. Each layer of this protocol is assigned a function. For example, layer 4 is a transport layer and layer 6 an address layer. Two communicating parties are connected to each other data-technically

PATENT

for example by means of a "Basis Internet Controller Card" (BISS). This interface card comprises seven layers, to each of which a function is assigned, for the Protocol OSI/ISO.

Simply stated, Applicants contend that the Sautter et al. reference does not disclose or teach a communication method which is subdivided into three phases, i.e., identifying phase, configuring phase and data exchange phase as called for in claim 1.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT

In the Drawings:

Please substitute the attached Replacement Drawing for Figure 1 as originally filed and includes annotations in red showing changes..